

REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

Claim 11 stands objected to because of informalities.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 10-12, 14, 15 and 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Jang et al. (US Pat. No. 6,927,820).

Claims 1-3, 7, 10-13, 19, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fujimori et al. (US Pat. No. 6,850,298) in view of Kubo et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,195,140).

Claims 4, 5, 14, 15, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fujimori et al. and Kubo et al., further in view of You (U.S. Patent No. 7,023,508).

Claims 8, 9, 11, 17, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fujimori et al. and Kubo et al., further in view of Official Notice.

Summary of Amendment

The Title of the Invention has been amended.

Claims 1, 10-12, 19, and 21 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 6 and 16 stand cancelled. Claims 1-5, 7-15, 17-21 are currently pending for consideration.

Title of Invention

The Title has been amended. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objection to the Title be withdrawn.

Claim Objection

Claim 11 has been objected to requesting clarification of its dependency. Claim 11 has been amended to confirm that claim 11 depends from claim 10. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objection to claim 11 be withdrawn.

All Claims Allowable

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 10-12, 14, 15 and 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Jang et al. Claims 1-3, 7, 10-13, 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fujimori et al. in view of Kubo et al. Claims 4, 5, 14, 15 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fujimori et al. in view of Kubo et al. and further in view of You. Claims 8, 9, 11, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fujimori et al. in view of Kubo et al. and further in view of Official Notice. Applicants respectfully traverse.

The present application claims priority to Korean Patent Application No. P2002-0088387, filed December 31, 2002. Applicants submit herewith a verified English translation of Korean Patent Application No. P2002-0088387, filed December 31, 2002, to perfect the date of the priority document. Since the priority date of the present application antedates the filing date of Jang et al., Applicants respectfully submits that Jang et al. no longer qualifies as prior art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the §102 rejection based on Jang et al. be withdrawn.

As amended, claim 1 recites, in part, "a common electrode on an inner surface of the opposing substrate, the common electrode being substantially flat." As amended, claim 10 recites, in part, "a common electrode on an inner surface of the second substrate, the common electrode being substantially flat." As amended, claim 12 recites, in part, the step of "forming a common electrode on an opposing substrate facing the substrate, wherein the common electrode is substantially flat." As amended, claim 19 recites, in part, "forming a common electrode on a second substrate, wherein the common electrode is substantially flat." As amended, claim 21 recites, in part, "a common electrode on an inner surface of the opposing substrate, the common electrode being substantially flat."

Applicants respectfully submit that Fujimori et al. not only fails to teach or suggest such a feature but specifically teaches away from such a feature. Fujimori et al. discloses that the inventive aspect of the disclosed invention is to improve the light efficiency and brightness by reducing the unused region of LCD panels. (*See, e.g.,* col. 12, ll. 46-64.) Fujimori et al. achieves these results by using a "multi-gap structure." (*See, e.g.,* col. 12, ll. 2, 60.) Accordingly, not only does Fujimori et al. fail to teach or suggest at least the features discussed above, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified Fujimori et al. to include a common electrode that is substantially flat as doing so would destroy the intended purpose of the multi-gap structure in Fujimori et al. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Fujimori et al. and Kubo et al., whether taken individually or in combination, fail to teach all the features of independent claims 1, 10, 12, 19, and 21 for at least the reasons stated above.

Dependent claims 2-5, 7-9, 11, 13-15, 17, 18, and 20 depend from one of independent claims 1, 10, 12, 19, and 21, thereby incorporating all the features of their respective base claims. You and the Official Notice taken do not and cannot cure the deficiencies of Fujimori et al. Accordingly, Fujimori et al., Kubo et al., You, and the Official Notice take, whether taken individually or in combination, fail to teach all of the features of dependent claims 2-5, 7-9, 11, 13-15, 17, 18, and 20 for at least the reasons discussed above.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the §103 rejection of claims 1-5, 7-15 and 17-21 be withdrawn.

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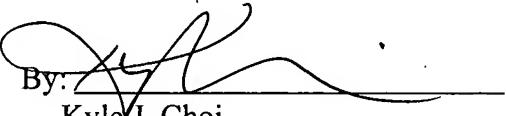
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 20, 2007

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